

What is claimed is:

1. Apparatus for coating articles with coating material, the apparatus including a coating dispensing device for dispensing coating material, a
5 conveyor for conveying articles past the coating dispensing device to be coated by coating material dispensed from the coating dispensing device, a high-magnitude potential supply for maintaining the coating dispensing device at high-magnitude electrostatic potential, and hangers for coupling articles to the conveyor, the hangers being constructed from electrically non-insulative strips.
- 10 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the electrically non-insulative strips include strips of foil or tape treated to render them electrically non-insulative.
3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the electrically non-insulative strips are treated on two sides to render two sides electrically non-insulative.
4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein each strip includes two
15 opposite ends, and further including an electrically non-insulative adhesive on one side adjacent the two ends.
5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the adhesive permits attachment of a strip to two sides of a respective article, creating a loop for suspending the respective article from the conveyor.
- 20 6. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the strips of foil or tape treated to render them electrically non-insulative include strips of foil or tape metallized to render them electrically non-insulative.
7. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein each strip includes two opposite ends, and further including an electrically non-insulative adhesive on one
25 side adjacent the two ends.
8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the adhesive permits attachment of a strip to two sides of a respective article, creating a loop for suspending the respective article from the conveyor.
9. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the strips of foil or tape
30 treated to render them electrically non-insulative include strips of foil or tape metallized to render them electrically non-insulative.

10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the electrically non-insulative strips are flexible.

11. A method for coating articles with coating material, the method including dispensing coating material from a coating dispensing device, maintaining
5 the coating dispensing device at high-magnitude electrostatic potential, coupling articles to a conveyor on hangers constructed from electrically non-insulative strips, and conveying the articles through the dispensed coating material on the hangers.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein coupling articles to the conveyor on hangers constructed from electrically non-insulative strips includes
10 coupling articles to the conveyor on hangers constructed from strips of foil or tape treated to render them electrically non-insulative.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein coupling articles to the conveyor on hangers constructed from strips of foil or tape treated to render them electrically non-insulative includes coupling articles to the conveyor on hangers
15 constructed from strips of foil or tape treated on two sides to render two sides electrically non-insulative.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein coupling articles to the conveyor on hangers constructed from strips of foil or tape treated to render them electrically non-insulative includes coupling articles to the conveyor on hangers
20 constructed from strips of foil or tape including two opposite ends, and further including providing an electrically non-insulative adhesive on one side adjacent the two ends.

15. The method of claim 14 further including attaching a strip using the adhesive to two sides of a respective article, thereby creating a loop for
25 suspending the respective article from the conveyor.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein treating the strips of foil or tape to render them electrically non-insulative includes metallizing the strips of foil or tape to render them electrically non-insulative.

17. The method of claim 12 further including providing an
30 electrically non-insulative adhesive on one side of each strip adjacent two opposite ends thereof.

18. The method of claim 17 further including attaching a strip to two sides of a respective article, creating a loop for suspending the respective article from the conveyor.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein treating the strips of foil or tape to render them electrically non-insulative includes metallizing the strips of foil or tape to render them electrically non-insulative.

20. The method of claim 11 wherein coupling articles to the conveyor on hangers constructed from electrically non-insulative strips includes coupling articles to the conveyor on hangers constructed from flexible, electrically non-insulative strips.

21. An apparatus for coating articles with coating material, comprising: means for dispensing coating material; means for maintaining the coating dispensing means at high-magnitude electrostatic potential; means for coupling articles to a convey, the coupling means including hangers constructed from electrically non-insulative strips; and means for conveying the articles through the dispensed coating material on the hangers.

22. A coated article made by dispensing coating material from a coating dispensing device, maintaining the coating dispensing device at high-magnitude electrostatic potential, coupling the article to a conveyor on a hanger constructed from an electrically non-insulative strip, and conveying the article through the dispensed coating material on the hanger.

23. The coated article of claim 22 made by coupling the article to the conveyor on a hanger constructed from a strip of foil or tape treated including two opposite ends, and provided with an electrically non-insulative adhesive on one side adjacent the two ends.

24. Hangers for coupling articles to a conveyor for conveyance through electrostatically charged coating material, the hangers being constructed from electrically non-insulative strips.

25. The hangers of claim 24 wherein the electrically non-insulative strips include strips of foil or tape treated to render them electrically non-insulative.

26. The hangers of claim 25 wherein the electrically non-insulative strips are treated on two sides to render two sides electrically non-insulative.

27. The hangers of claim 26 wherein each strip includes two opposite ends, and further including an electrically non-insulative adhesive on one side adjacent the two ends.

28. The hangers of claim 27 wherein the adhesive permits
5 attachment of a strip to two sides of a respective article, creating a loop for suspending the respective article from the conveyor.

29. The hangers of claim 27 wherein the strips of foil or tape treated to render them electrically non-insulative include strips of foil or tape metallized to render them electrically non-insulative.

10 30. The hangers of claim 25 wherein each strip includes two opposite ends, and further including an electrically non-insulative adhesive on one side adjacent the two ends.

31. The hangers of claim 30 wherein the adhesive permits
15 attachment of a strip to two sides of a respective article, creating a loop for suspending the respective article from the conveyor.

32. The hangers of claim 30 wherein the strips of foil or tape treated to render them electrically non-insulative include strips of foil or tape metallized to render them electrically non-insulative.

20 33. The hangers of claim 24 wherein the electrically non-insulative strips are flexible.